

City of Mesa Library Advisory Board Meeting

Date: March 19, 2013
Time: 5:30 p.m.
Location: City of Mesa Main Library
64 E. 1st Street

Members Present

Diane Cantile
Chair

Robert McDonald, Jr.
Becky Rapier
Teresa D'Asaro
Blair Lange
Lora Bolick
Ellen Bachman

Members Absent

Kathy Tolman
Sharon Webster

Staff Present

Heather Wolf
Lanty Snelson
Polly Bonnett
Dawn Kucerak
Kellie Gillespie

Guests Present

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION
Call to Order	Board Chair Diane Cantile called the regular bi-monthly meeting of the City of Mesa Library Advisory Board to order at 5:30 p.m. on March 19, 2013.
Approval of Minutes	Board member Robert McDonald, Jr. moved & Board member Ellen Bachman seconded that the minutes of the January 15, 2013 regular meeting be approved as presented. Motion passed, all voting yes.
Public Comments	There were no public comments.
Director's Report	<p>Library Director Heather Wolf reported on the following:</p> <p><u>February 2013 Usage statistics:</u> See handout.</p> <p><u>THINKspot update:</u> Construction should be completed by the end of March. Currently the furniture and equipment orders are being finalized. Interviews for the THINKspot Coordinator (TSC) concluded on 3/14/13. A conditional offer has been accepted and a start date for the TSC is mid-April. The TSC would plan the <i>grand opening</i> for THINKspot although a soft opening is anticipated.</p> <p><u>Budget update:</u> At the City Council strategic planning meeting on 2/21/13, Council was updated on the City's budget and proposed legislature that could impact future revenues. The City's FY 13/14 budget of \$1 billion is not balanced. There is a shortfall of \$8 to \$9 million due to costs, particularly pension and benefits costs, rising faster than revenues. For the City, personnel costs are 76% of the general fund expenses and when pension and benefits costs increase, the impact is significant. Employee costs across the City in the FY 13/14 budget increased by \$6 million. At this time, no merit or cost of living adjustments have been identified in the FY 13/14 budget nor have any reductions been requested</p>

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	<p>from Departments by the City Manager. The City expects to cover the shortfall by not contributing as much to the Benefit Trust fund. The City Manager is asking Department Directors to bring other cost saving ideas/efficiencies to offset the shortfall to their scheduled meetings in March. The library's baseline budget is just over \$7 million of which \$5.3 million is personnel costs equal to 75% of the library's total budget. \$1.7 million is allocated for materials, supplies and other operational costs. Increases in the library's costs were covered with utility savings.</p> <p>At the library's meeting on 3/25/13 rather than proposing innovations with impact like last year, three pilot projects will be presented to the City Manager. The <i>first pilot</i> will be at the Dobson Ranch Library. The goal would be to reduce the size of the service desk such that customer service transactions would take place away from the desk. Staff would then carry tablets to search the catalog, databases and Internet and use Bluetooth headsets to answer the telephones. The <i>second pilot</i> will be at the Main Library. The goal would be to create an instructional space that provides access to technology and staff who would provide hands on instruction in the use and creation of digital content. The <i>third pilot</i> would be out in the community. The goal would be to, <i>embed</i>, two librarians as liaisons to collaborate and develop partnerships; one librarian with the business community and the other librarian with the Mesa downtown universities.</p>
YAAC Report	Board member Blair Lange reported that YAAC members are currently writing reviews for the YAAC book review site.
Library Board Community Involvement Update	Library Director Heather Wolf reported on the upcoming community involvement events: Building Strong Neighborhoods, District 6, 3/21, staff will attend; the Volunteer Luncheon, 3/23, Board Chair Diane Cantile will attend and the invitation is open to all Board members; and Councilman Kavanaugh Pancake Breakfast on 4/27, Board Chair Diane Cantile and Board member Ellen Bachman will attend.
Identify items for future agendas	How controversial topics are handled, the process and decision makers. How library events and services are marketed and promoted.
Announcements	Library Director Heather Wolf announced that Board member Becky Rapier has been awarded a citizen scholarship by the Maricopa County Library District. As a recipient of the scholarship, Ms. Rapier will accompany the ALA Citizen Group to Washington, D.C. on May 7, 2013.
Adjournment	<p>Board member Robert McDonald Jr. moved & Board member Teresa D'Asaro seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.</p> <p>The next meeting will be held on May 21, 2013 at 5:30 p.m. in the Main Library Boardroom, 64 E. 1st Street.</p>

Heather Wolf, Library Director signs for minutes